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Docket: 14532.01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

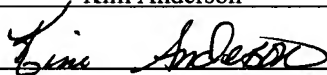
First Named Inventor:	Tara Nicole Sherman	
Appln. No.:	10/723,718	
Filing Date:	November 25, 2003	Examiner: Thomas C. Barrett
Title:	PROSTHETIC SPINAL DISC NUCLEUS WITH ELEVATED SWELLING RATE	Group Art Unit: 3738

**PAPER SUBMITTED IN RESPONSE TO COMMUNICATION  
DATED SEPTEMBER 20, 2006**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Express Mailing Number: EV 808020538 US  
Date of Deposit: October 2, 2006

I hereby certify that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

(Name) Kim Anderson  
  
(Signature)

Sir:

In response to the Communication mailed from the US Patent Office, dated September 20, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows. The response is timely filed within one (1) month of the Communication. Therefore, no fees are considered due at this time.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.